



Department of Toxic Substances Control

Edwin F. Lowry, Director
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Glendale, California 91201



Winston H. Hickox
Agency Secretary
California Environmental
Protection Agency

Gray Davis
Governor

April 22, 2002

To the Public Notice Mailing List for the **Palm Enterprises Treatment Facility**, Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, Detachment **Fallbrook**, California:

PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT REQUESTED

Closure of Former Palm Enterprises Hazardous Waste Treatment Facility

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) invites the public to review and comment on three documents related to the recent closure of the former Palm Enterprises Hazardous Waste Treatment Facility at Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, Detachment Fallbrook, California. These documents are a [draft Closure Plan](#), [draft Closure Certification Report](#), and [draft Negative Declaration](#).

Palm Enterprises operated for one year in 1989 as a hazardous waste facility to demilitarize and recycle napalm canisters at the Fallbrook detachment of the Naval Weapons Station. This is not the napalm facility that had been in the news in recent years. That facility was at a different location at Fallbrook, and was closed in April 2001 after three years of operation and the completion of the napalm canister deactivation and recycling program.

The draft Closure Plan describes the procedures used to remove, process, and dispose of all hazardous waste residue at the facility; and to rinse and decontaminate all equipment, containers, and pipes that were kept at the facility or sent to a recycling facility. The Closure Certification Report provides information to verify that the former Palm Enterprises Hazardous Waste treatment facility was successfully decontaminated and closed, and that there are no hazardous materials left behind that could pose a threat to human health or the environment. These two documents were prepared in compliance with the requirements for closure of a hazardous waste permitted facility under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).

The draft Negative Declaration is DTSC's determination that the activities described in the draft Closure Plan would not have a significant negative impact on the environment. The draft Negative Declaration was prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

A 45-day public comment period for the documents begins on April 25, 2002, and extends through June 10, 2002. Please refer to the enclosed public notice (which will run in the San Diego *Union-Tribune* on April 25, 2002) for further information on where to find the documents and how to submit comments. A public hearing will be held if there is a significant degree of public interest.

Should you have any questions on the draft Closure Certification Report, draft Closure Plan, and/or draft Negative Declaration, please contact Mr. Mike Eshaghian, Project Manager, at (818) 551-2926.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY JOSE KOU

Jose Kou, P.E., Chief
Southern California Permitting Branch
Hazardous Waste Management Program

Attachment



NOTICE OF 45-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD



Closure of Palm Enterprises Hazardous Waste Treatment Facility at Detachment Fallbrook Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, Fallbrook, California

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) invites the public to review and comment on three documents related to the recent closure of the former Palm Enterprises Hazardous Waste Treatment Facility at the Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, Detachment Fallbrook. Palm Enterprises Hazardous Waste Treatment Facility is the older of two napalm processing facilities at Fallbrook, and has been deactivated since 1989. This is not the napalm facility that had been in the news in recent years. That facility was at a different location at Fallbrook, and was closed in April 2001 after three years of operation and the completion of the napalm canister deactivation and recycling program.

The first document for review is a draft Closure Plan that describes the procedures used to decontaminate and close the facility. The second document is a draft Closure Certification Report, which provides information to verify that the facility was successfully decontaminated and closed under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). The third document is a draft Negative Declaration, which is the finding by DTSC that the activities described in the draft Closure Plan would not have a significant negative impact on the environment. The draft Negative Declaration was prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Palm Enterprises Hazardous Waste Treatment Facility operated for one year as a hazardous waste facility to demilitarize and recycle napalm canisters. Napalm-associated contaminants include benzene, toluene, ethyl benzene, total xylene, and styrene. The draft Closure Plan describes the procedures used to remove, process, and dispose of all hazardous waste residue at the facility; and to rinse and decontaminate all equipment, containers, and pipes that were kept at the facility or sent to a recycling facility.

The public is invited to provide written comments on the draft Closure Plan, draft Closure Certification Report, and draft Negative Declaration from April 25, 2002 through June 10, 2002. DTSC will consider all comments in making a final decision to approve or modify these documents, and all written comments will be formally addressed in a Response to Comments. Please send written comments, postmarked or emailed by June 10, 2002, to Mr. Mike Eshaghian, DTSC Project Manager, 1011 N. Grandview Avenue, Glendale, CA 91201; email: meshaghi@dtsc.ca.gov. The draft Closure Plan, draft Closure Certification Report, and draft Negative Declaration are available at two locations: the Fallbrook Branch of the San Diego County Library, 124 S. Mission Road, Fallbrook; and the DTSC office in Glendale at the address shown above (call the file room at (818) 551-2886 to schedule an appointment). A public hearing will be held if there is a significant degree of public interest.

Si desea informacion en espanol, comuniquese con Derrick Alatorre por el (714) 484-5474

NOTICE TO THE HEARING IMPAIRED

You can obtain additional information by using the California State Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378 (TDD). Ask them to contact Mr. Mike Eshaghian at (818) 551-2926 regarding Palm Enterprises Treatment Facility.